FBIS
DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

24 SEPTEMBER 1980

Iraq-Iran Conflict

Military Situation--Communiques issued by the Iraqi General Command and carried by Baghdad radio's domestic and Voice of the Masses services have provided the most detailed information on the progress of the battle on the Iraqi-Iranian front and behind the lines. The Iraqis have claimed that they have captured Iran's Sumar district and Qasr-e Shirin, reached the outskirts of Mehran, surrounded Khorramshahr and Abadan and caused the "destruction and burning" of Abadan's "oil installations." In addition, the communiques have reported that Iraqi planes have bombed military airbases in Hamadan, Dezful, Bushehr, Tabriz, Umm Qasr, Azar Shahiz, Ahvaz, Sanandaj, Kermanshah, Shahrukh and Shahabad on 23 and 24 September in sorties designed to knock out the Iranian Air Force. The General Command has further disclosed that Iranian aircraft have bombed Baghdad, Basra, Kirkuk, Irbil, Al-Qayyarah and oil installations in the Al-Muttiyah region. A statement issued by the General Command, carried by INA, gave a "final strong warning" to Iran that if it does not stop shelling and strafing "civilian and economic targets" in Iraq, the Iraqi Armed Forces will "deal deterrent strikes against Iranian economic installations in all areas." The statement claimed that the Iranians hit residential areas in Baghdad and other cities. A statement of the Iranian Joint Staff, carried by Tehran radio, claimed that Iranian aircraft hit only "airbases and military installations" and denied that Iraqi cities and "civilian installations" were attacked.

Iranian media have been less forthcoming with details on the fighting than their Iraqi counterparts, but Abadan radio did confirm that "the enemy has attacked our refinery," and the Oil Ministry, in a statement carried by Tehran radio, declared that Iraqi attacks have "not spared the oil installations" and have "especially endangered the Abadan refinery." The ministry announced that the refinery's operations have been stopped to "safeguard" it but went on to assure the public that the "necessary contingencies for the storing of fuel have been made and at the moment there is no need for concern regarding the amount of fuel in depots." Nevertheless, the statement urged the public to avoid future shortages by economizing on gasoline and to avoid hoarding.

Iraqi claims of advances in Iranian territory and the capture or envelopment of Iranian cities have not been confirmed by monitored Tehran media. However, in an interview with Tehran radio, acting Chief of Staff Valiollah Fallahi prepared the Iranian nation for such a situation, saying: "It is possible that in the short term the Iraqi Army might achieve superficial, local and shortlived successes, but in the long term we will ultimately prevail." Fallahi characterized the current military situation as involving "relatively extensive and comprehensive operations" over a wide front in which the forces of the two countries are "locked together." He said that Iranian military intelligence is "adequate" but admitted that Iraq has more modern military equipment and that Iran has "certain shortcomings" in the field of repair and maintenance. He stated that the armed forces have not requested additional manpower from the civilian population and have "begged them not to enter the arena" but that "should there be shortcomings we shall appeal for help from the forces of the Iranian nation."

In a statement carried by Tehran radio, the Joint Staff said there is "some evidence that some foreign military units might indirectly interfere in favor of the enemy" in the Strait of Hormuz and the Persian Gulf. It also warned that if such interference is established, Iran will consider itself justified to "react in any way it finds appropriate." Tehran radio also carried an appeal to all Islamic countries and peoples to support Iran in its fight against Iraq and "to condemn this deviation and aggression in any way you can." It asked neighboring Muslim countries not to allow their facilities and airspace to be used by the "infidel in this betrayal in the world of Islam." This appeal contrasted with the strong language used in an earlier Joint Staff statement specifically warning the UAE and other gulf countries not to allow forces inimical to Iran to use their harbors and airports and promising Iranian retaliation if they did so.

A Foreign Ministry statement also pointed out what Khomeyni had implied in his 22 September address to the nation: that Iranian military action to this point has been primarily "to indicate our readiness to defend ourselves" but that when "our ultimatum runs out, the dignity of our Islamic revolution" will not allow the "traitors of Islam to continue in such an unbridled manner."

Iranian Domestic Tension--Ayatollah Khomeyni and Majlis Speaker Hashemi Rafsanjani have made statements, reported by Tehran radio, expressing concern over domestic unease caused by the escalation of fighting. Khomeyni said it is incumbent on Iranian media to report only news that has been proven to be "100 percent correct" and not to quote reports from "unreliable sources" so as to prevent "panic and anxiety" among the populace. He also appealed to the press not to publish any reports that might "weaken the armed forces." Khomeyni added that the "security forces" are dutybound to arrest "those who spread rumors" and that the people must identify "rumormongers" to the revolutionary courts. He also appealed to "all sectors of society and all government organs" to "forget their minor discords" so as not to help the "enemies of Islam." Rafsanjani warned that counterrevolutionaries may try to "misuse the critical situation" in the country for their own ends. He revealed that rumors of a military coup d'etat have been floated to incite the people to attack the military but claimed that this "conspiracy was speedily neutralized." Rafsanjani also emphasized that the hoarding of gas and food for fear of shortages is against the interests of the revolution, and he assured the people that "Iraq is not in a position to create such difficulties for us." He went on to say that should shortages occur all Iranians would face the difficulties together.

Regional Reaction, Mediation Efforts--Monitored Middle East media have not indicated a groundswell of Arab support for Iraq. The YAR and Jordan remain the only countries to have openly expressed unqualified support for the Saddam Husayn government. According to Amman radio, King Husyan reiterated his country's stand on the conflict, saying that "Arab rights cannot be relinquished" anywhere and calling for a "unified Arab stand in support of fraternal Iraq." Egyptian Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Butrus Ghali, in comments reported by MENA, said the conflict is a "serious threat" to gulf security since it could precipitate "behind-the-scenes interference" or the actual "intervention" of the "big powers." He also declared that the fighting is endangering the Palestinian question by usurping its "position of prominence" as the most important issue in the Middle East.

INA reported that Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi has "expressed his support" for Iraq's confrontation with Iran. However, Islamic Conference Secretary General Habib Chatti called for an "immediate cease-fire" and, according to AFP, proposed that the Islamic Conference act as a mediator. Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, cited by JANA, has also called for "urgent intervention" in the dispute by Islamic states. AFP reported that Cuban Foreign Minister Isidoro Malmierca has left for Baghdad and Tehran with messages from President Fidel Castro to the leaders of both states asking them to end the conflict.

Iran and Iraq have given little open indication as to their receptivity to mediation efforts. In this regard Majlis Speaker Rafsanjani, in comments reported by Tehran radio's Arabic service, said only that mediation "does not conflict" with Iran's ideas of exporting its revolution to Iraq and that the "meaning of the acceptance of mediation in war is only that we state our word and make our concepts public." Citing the Kuwaiti paper AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM, KUNA reported that an unidentified Iraqi minister has stated that Iraq will "at present" refuse any mediation in the conflict. The paper also said that "political sources" have affirmed that Iraq will accept no mediation whatsoever "at its expense" and will not retreat from captured Iranian territory.

USSR Role--AFP reported that the Iranian ambassador to the USSR, Mohammad Mokri, emerged from discussions with the deputy chairman of the Supreme Soviet Presidium, Inamdzhan Usmankhodzhayev, saying that he had been "formally assured" that the USSR intends "to remain neutral" in the Iran-Iraq dispute and that Iran is "grateful" for this neutrality. Mokri also stated that the visit of Iraqi Deputy Prime Minister Tariq 'Aziz to Moscow had been a "failure" and that Moscow has refused to give further military aid to Iraq.

American Hostages

Tehran radio's Arabic service called Baghdad radio charges that Iran had released the hostages part of an "obvious and desperate campaign of lies" and affirmed that the hostages are still in the "grip of the Iranian revolution." It reiterated that the Majlis has "completely frozen" discussion of the hostages issue. The radio also reported Rafsanjani as saying that Iran considers the Iraqi attacks to be "part of a large U.S. plot" and that "these events will have their impact on the destiny of the hostages." However, Tehran radio reported that on 23 September the Majlis continued discussion of "general issues related to the issue of the hostages which had remained incomplete at the previous session." But it made no mention of any progress in constituting the special committee to make recommendations on the hostages affair. The "Muslim student followers of the imam's policy" issued Statement 146, reported by Tehran radio, in which they stated that in order to foil a U.S. "plot" to release the detained Americans, the hostages being held in Qom, Esfahan, Mashhad, Tabriz, Kerman, Yazd and Jahrom have been transferred to "other sites."

Jordan

In a statement reported by Amman radio, an official spokesman denied Israeli media reports that Jordan had notified Israel through a "third party"--the United States, according to Israeli reports--that the landing of Iraqi aircraft in Jordan should not be interpreted as a show of "aggressive intentions." The spokesman said that Jordan had not asked "any quarter" to play such a role and called the Israeli reports a "cheap intrigue" aimed at damaging Jordan's "honorable pan-Arab stand."

Afghanistan

Pakistani Foreign Minister Agha Shahi has proposed that the Afghanistan issue be resolved by a "minisummit" held under UN auspices and attended by Pakistan, Afghanistan, Iran and seven other nonaligned and Islamic countries. Shahi, according to the Jakarta news agency OANA, envisages the minisummit's negotiating a "political settlement" to the crisis by advocating the formation of a "government of national unity" that would be friendly with the USSR and receive diplomatic recognition from the Islamic states. Shahi's proposal provides for the withdrawal of Soviet troops on the condition that the Afghan rebels give Moscow a "cease-fire assurance."

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KARMAL THANKS BULGARIAN LEADERS FOR ANNIVERSARY GREETINGS

AU182023 Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 1930 GMT 18 Sep 80

[Text] Comrades Todor Zhivkov and Stanko Todorov have received a telegram from Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan and president of the Revolution Council, as well as prime minister of Afghanistan. The telegram expresses most cordial and warm gratitude for the congratulations on the occasion of the 61st anniversary of the declaration of independence of Afghanistan. "The support and assistance of the BCP and the Bulgarian people in the struggle of the Afghan working people for the preservation of their independence and democratic freedoms have always been highly appreciated by the People's Democratic Party and by the people of Afghanistan," the telegram states. "We are confident that the fraternal relations between our two parties and people will continue to develop and strengthen to the advantage of both countries and peoples, as well as in the interest of world peace."

KARMAL GREETS MALIAN PRESIDENT ON NATIONAL DAY

GF221525 Kabul in Urdu to South Asia 1330 GMT 22 Sep 80

[Text] On the occassion of Mali's National Day, a congratulatory message on behalf of Babrak Karmal, secretary general of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan, head of the Revolution Council and prime minister, has been dispatched to Bamako, addressed to the president of the Republic of Mali.

CENTRAL COMMITTEE'S PANJSHIRI LEADS DELEGATION TO MOSCOW

LD231956 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 23 Sep 80

[Text] Dastagir Panjshiri, member of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan [PDPA] Central Committee Politburo, president of the Central Committee Control Commission and member of the Revolution Council, left this evening for Moscow at the head of a delegation at the invitation of the CPSU Central Commission, to pay an official visit and to the inspect the work of the CPSU Central Committee. The delegation was seen off at Kabul International Airport by members of the PDPA Central Committee, the Revolution Council Presidium and the Council of Ministers, the deputy to the chief of protocol of the Foreign Ministry and the Soviet ambassador in Kabul.

GENERAL QADER DEPARTS FOR CUBA TO ATTEND CELEBRATION

LD231852 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 23 Sep 80

[Text] Brig Gen 'Abdol Qader, member of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan [PDPA] Central Committee and member of the Presidium of the Revolution Council, left this evening for Havana upon the invitation of the Cuban Communist Party. Qader will participate in the 20th anniversary celebration of the formation of the resistance group which fought against the reactionary and foreign forces. At Kabul international airport, members of the PDPA Central Committee, members of the Presidium of the Revolution Council, members of the Council of Ministers, deputy to the chief of protocol at the Foreign Ministry and the ambassador of Cuba in Kabul were present at the farewell.

PARTY OFFICIALS MEET INTERNATIONAL YOUTH DELEGATIONS

LD232150 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 23 Sep 80

[Text] The delegations of [word indistinct] national organization and five international youth organizations of Asian, African, European and American countries arrived in Kabul today in order to take part in the (?general) conference of the Democratic Youth Organization of Afghanistan which is scheduled to be held this week.

The delegations were welcomed at Kabul Airport by 'Abdol Wakil, member of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan [PDPA] Central Committee, member of the Revolution Council and minister of finance; Dr Habid Mangal, member of the party Central Committee and assistant to the Central Committee Department of Organization in the Social Affairs Organizations; Honar Chairat, candidate member of the PDPA Central Committee; Borhan Ghiasi, first executive secretary of the Democratic Youth Organization of Afghanistan; some members of the executive baord of that organization and some ambassadors of friendly countries. Over 100 representatives of national and international youth organizations will take part in the conference. After participating in the conference, the delegations will attend a gathering in Kabul to show their solidarity with the youth, people and revolution of Afghanistan.

A BAKHTAR correspondent reports that the arrival of the guest delegations of youth organizations was greeted with warm enthusiasm by a group of Afghan youth organization members, who presented them with flowers. Kabul international airport has been decorated with national, government and party flags and slogans in the Pashto, Dari, French, Russian, German, English and Arabic languages.

KHAWIANI INAUGURATES NEW TRADE UNION BUILDING

LD19191944 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 19 Sep 80

[Text] The new building of the Afghan Trade Union [ATU] Central Committee was opened today by Najmoddin Khawiani, member of the Peoples Democratic Party of Afghanistan [PDPA] Central Committee and chairman of the Organizing Committee of the party Central Committee, during special ceremonies. The building is located next to the Planning Ministry's building.

Dr Habib Mangal, member of the PDPA Central Committee and deputy of the Organizing Committee of the party Central Committee for matters concerning social affairs, a number of workers of the ATU Central Committee, and trade union representatives of the country were present at this ceremony.

Najmoddin Khawiani, in a detailed speech explained the role of the trade union in building the new society in Afghanistan, under the leadership of the PDPA. He said: the party and the Government of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan deeply believe in putting at the disposal of the working class and other toilers of the country the best offices, housing and pleasure resorts so that they can participate with grace and honor in the building of the new society in Afghanistan.

At the end of his speech Khawiani congratulated the personnel and the ATU on the opening of the new building and pointed out to them most of all their grave and responsible jobs in defending and supporting beloved Afghanistan and the objectives of the Sawr Revolution in this development stage.

Afterward Satar Purdeli, president of the ATU Central Committee, talked about the new building which has beenput at the disposal of the ATU by the PDPA Central Committee and the Revolution Council and thanked them. On behalf of the ATU Central Committee members, he promised cooperation in building the new society in Afghanistan.

ACTIVISTS 'ELIMINATE' HIGHWAY ROBBERS, MERCENARIES

LD181736 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 18 Sep 80

[Text] In the process of clearing out the mercenaries, rebels and highway robbers, a large number of these murderers have recently been eliminated in the area of (Sorkhakon) of (Shahjow) district in the Province of Zabol and in the village of (Abdirba) in the Province of Parvan.

The BAKHTAR correspondent reports from Qalat, the capital of Zabol Province, that a large number of these criminals who used to attack passenger vehicles and take the money and property of the passengers have been eliminated by the soldiers and officers of the mountain unit, the party activists and the sarandoy. Various arms have been captured from them.

Similarly, the party activists and revolutionary resistance group of the village of (Abdiba), near the capital of Parvan Province, have eliminated a few of the highway robbers in an armed confrontation, and a number of arms have been captured from these highway robbers and murderers.

AFP: REPLACEMENTS NAMED FOR MISSING MINISTERS

OW222322 Hong Kong AFP in English 2250 GMT 22 Sep 80

[Text] Islamabad, 22 Sep (AFP)--The Soviet-backed Afghan regime today announced large-scale administrative changes, with new departmental heads named in several ministries, Radio Kabul, monitored here, reported tonight. The pro-Moscow regime of Afghan President Babrak Karmal, facing mounting insurgency in the country, appointed separate "chiefs" in the ministries of planning, tribal, excise and customs, and external affairs, the radio said. It gave no details nor the reason for the new appointments.

Last August, the Afghan Government replaced several provincial governors, and a month earlier, President Karmal reduced the status of the powerful Interior Ministry and formed a broad-based "general presidency," assuming the bulk of its power himself.

Today's appointments followed the reported killing of two Afghan ministers by Moslem rebels in a commando attack this month. The rebel sources said that Lt Col Fayz Mohammad, minister for border affairs, and engineer Nazar Mohammad, minister for planning, were killed by Afghan guerrillas in an ambush in Paktia Province. The official media has yet to announce their replacements. The new departmental chiefs will help run the affairs of the respective ministries because almost all Afghan ministers were reportedly touring various troubled spots in the country to rally support among the Moslem tribes opposing communist rule in Afghanistan, observers here said.

According to the Kabul radio broadcast, under the changed set-up, Muhammed Anwar will be in charge of industrial affiars, while Abdul Waheed Faizi will have an advisory post in external affairs.

Muhammed Siddiq Sailani will look after the work of excise and customs and tribal affairs, while Abdul Haji Qarizada will be in charge of planning, the radio said. According to observers here, two of the new appointees, with responsibilities similar to those of the reportedly killed ministers, might act as their replacements. Muhammed Siddiq Sailani "in charge" of tribal affairs, was given a job similar to that of border affairs minister Fayz Mohammad, while Abdul Haji Qarizada,"head" of planning, seems to have been given the public works duties of Nazar Mohammad.

GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN: IRAN-IRAQ CONFLICT 'UNFORTUNATE'

BK231557 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 23 Sep 80

[Text] India regards the conflict between Iraq and Iran as an unfortunate development affecting peace in the area. An official spokesman said in New Delhi today that in India's view the conflict is particularly unfortunate because it has friendly relations with both the countries. The spokesman, who was answering queries by newsmen, said the Government of India has been receiving reports both from Baghdad and Tehran and is also in touch with the Iraqi and Iranian Embassies in Delhi.

[Hong Kong AFP in English at 1340 GMT on 23 September in a similar report identified the speaker as a Foreign Office spokesman and adds the following: "Asked if the fighting between the two oil-rich countries would affect oil supplies to India, he said it would be a matter of concern if that happened. The spokesman said Prime Minister Mrs Indira Gandhi was kept informed throughout the day today of the latest developments in the gulf. Informed sources said reports had also been received here on the situation from the Indian missions in Baghdad and Tehran. Finance Minister R. Venkatraman left for Baghdad yesterday on an official visit but could not reach the Iraqi capital as the fight flared up. His flight was since diverted to Kuwait, the PRESS TRUST OF INDIA (PTI) news agency reported, quoting official information received here."]

GANDHI'S ORDINANCE AMENDS CRIMINAL PROCEDURE CODE

BK231627 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 23 Sep 80

[Text] The president today promulgated an ordinance amending the Criminal Procedure Code [CPC] enabling the law enforcement agencies to deal effectively with habitual criminals and those creating enmity between different groups and communities.

Under the ordinance, habitual offenders would not ordinarily be granted bail by the courts. It also makes the bail provision under the CPC stricter. The ordinance grants special powers to district magistrates to sanction prosecution for various offenses. These powers had been hitherto enjoyed by only central and state governments. The ordinance amends eight sections of the criminal procedure code and inserts a new section. The changes strengthen bail provisions. The executive magistrates will now be entrusted with the proceedings of security for good behavior for persons disseminating seditious matters, habitual offenders and suspected persons. The ordinance takes effect immediately.

Opposition Leaders Criticize Ordinance

BK231643 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 23 Sep 80

[Excerpt] Janata Party leader Prof Madhu Dandavate has said that the new [national security] ordinance could be used to curb the liberties of organizations and legitimate trade union activities.

Congress-U General Secretary Tarkeshwari Sinha has demanded the repeal of the ordinance. West Bengal Chief Minister Jyoti Basu said in Calcutta that he does not support detention without trial. Kerala Chief Minister E.K. Nayanar said that the ordinance will not be sufficient to bring the antinational and procommunal forces under control. The Lok Dal and the Communist Party of India have also criticized the promulgation of the ordinance and have demanded its immediate withdrawal.

SHAHI EXPRESSES CONCERN OVER IRAO-IRAN CONFLICT

BK230915 Karachi Overseas Service in Urdu 0800 GMT 23 Sep 80

[Text] Foreign Minister Agha Shahi, who is the chairman of the Islamic foreign ministers conference, has expressed grave concern at deteriorating Iraq-Iran relations. He was talking to newsmen at the United Nations. However, ASSOCIATED PRESS OF PAKISTAN has reported from the United Nations that neigher Iran nor Iraq has approached the United Nations Security Council or the Islamic conference to resolve the conflict.

The situation arising out of the Iran-Iraq conflict was also discussed during Mr Agha Shahi's meetings with top representatives of various countries attending the current session of the UN General Assembly. These include FRG Foreign Minister Mr Genscher, Yugoslav Foreign Minister Josip Vrhovec and British Secretary of State Loard Carrington. ASSOCIATED PRESS OF PAKISTAN, quoting informed sources, says [words indistinct].

WORLD MUSLIM CONGRESS URGES END TO IRAQ-IRAN FIGHTING

BK231646 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 23 Sep 80

[Text] Secretary General Dinamullah Khan of the Motamare al-Alam al-Eslami [World Muslim Congress], in a statement in Karachi, has urged Iraq and Iran to end the fighting and try to resolve their problem through negotiations.

PRESIDENT DISCUSSES ISLAMIZATION, AFGHANISTAN

BK230400 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 23 Sep 80

[Excerpts] The 1-day all Pakistan ulema convention ended in Islamabad last night after deliberating measures for the Islamization of society and effective enforcement of the Islamic system in the country.

Addressing the concluding session of the convention, President Gen Mohammad Ziaul Haq stressed the need to work with the same zeal and spirit for the enforcement of Islamic laws as was witnessed during the struggle for the creation of Pakistan. He said ulema and scholars could make a great contribution in this regard as they did during the Pakistan movement. Gen Mohammad Ziaul Haq emphasized the need to stand on our own feet to defend the country, and said Pakistan will acquire whatever armament is needed for its self-defense. The 80 million people of Pakistan will not hesitate to make the supreme sacrifice for the country's defense. He agreed with the suggestion by the priests that youths should be given compulsory military and civil defense training. He reiterated that Pakistan will not interfere in others' internal affairs, nor will it allow others to interfere in its internal affairs.

On Afghanistan, the president said it is an Islamic country and the people of Afghanistan have maintained their independence for centuries. No country can be allowed to change its Islamic identity. He said Pakistan will continue to provide succor to the Afghan refugees.

SHAHI SUGGESTS LOCAL SUMMIT TO SOLVE AFGHAN CRISIS

BK231051 Jakarta OANA in English 0958 GMT 23 Sep 80

["Pool item"--dateline as received]

[Text] Canberra, 23 Sep (Newspool-KUNA)--Pakistani Foreign Minister Mr Agha Shahi said in an interview here Monday that the Pakistani Government is continuing its efforts to muster international support for a political settlement of the Afghan crisis.

Shahi suggested a minisummit under the auspices of the United Nations consisting of Pakistan, Afghanistan, Iran and seven other nonaligned and Islamic countries. The Pakistani proposal envisages a political settlement for the Afghan crisis through negotiating the possibility of forming a government of national unity which should be friendly to the Soviet Union and should receive diplomatic recognition from Islamic countries, Mr. Shahi said. According to the proposal the new Afghan Government should ask the Soviet Union to pull its forces out of Afghanistan on the condition that Moscow gets a ceasefire assurance from the Afghan revolutionaries. The Pakistani minister expressed the hope that the Pakistani proposal will obtain international support because it is very reasonable and because there is no other solution.

PRESIDENT SENDS MESSAGE TO TURKEY'S ULUSU

TA232025 Ankara Domestic Service in Turkish 2000 GMT 23 Sep 80

[Text] Pakistani President Ziaul Haq has sent a message of congratulations to Prime Minister Bulent Ulusu. In his message, Ziaul Haq said that the cooperation between the two countries for the last 30 years in various fields was reflected in the joint understanding reached regarding many international and regional problems as well as in the economic, cultural and social cooperation programs. According to a statement issued by the Foreign Ministry information directorate general, Haq expressed the belief that this cooperation will be further strengthened in the future.

PRESIDENT PRAISES TIES WITH SAUDI ARABIA

BK240129 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 23 Sep 80

[Text] President Gen Mohammad Ziaul Haq has said the relationship between Pakistan and Saudi Arabia has stood the test of time. He was speaking at a reception held in Islamabad tonight in connection with the national day of Saudi Arabia. He said the relationship between the two countries was not based on emotion but on strong ties of (word indistinct] religion and customs. The two countries, he added, would also have linguistic ties soon.

The president wished the very best of everything to King Khalid, Crown Prince Fahd, the people and the government of Saudi Arabia. He said the people of Pakistan wished Saudi Arabia progress and prosperity and expressed the hope that they would continue to enjoy the bounties of Almighty Allah for years to come. Earlier, Saudi Ambassador Samir ash-Shihabi in his speech said the Pakistan president had played a laudable role in promoting relations between the two countries. The reception was also attended by Chairman of Joint Chief of Staff Committee Gen Mohammad Iqbal, federal ministers, senior military and civil officials, ambassadors and notable citizens.

ZIAUL HAQ TO STOP IN PARIS ON WAY TO NEW YORK

BK240128 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0100 GMT 24 Sep 80

[Text] It has been officially announced in Paris that President Giscard d'Estaing will have a meeting with President Mohammad Ziaul Haq on Sunday [28 September] when the latter makes a brief stopover in the French capital on his way to New York.

In New York, the president will address the UN General Assembly on the first of next month on behalf of the Islamic countries.

BANI-SADR, RAJA'I MEET ISLAMIC AMBASSADORS 23 SEP

JN240920 Tehran International Service in Arabic 0400 GMT 24 Sep 80

[Text] PARS reports that yesterday the heads of the diplomatic missions of the Islamic countries met with Dr Abolhasan Bani-Sadr, president of the republic and commander in chief of the armed forces, and with Mohammad 'Ali Raja'i, the prime minister.

In his speech to the Islamic countries' ambassadors, President Bani-Sadr said that Iraq claims that it has repeatedly called for the holding of peaceful talks and that we turned this down. All these allegations, used by the Iraqi Government to justify its attack on Iran, are false and are not compatible with truth and reality.

The president of the republic added: When the Iraqi Government contacted us for the first time, saying that it was prepared to solve the problems outstanding between the two sides by means of talks, we told it that if it was really serious, it must give up its aid to the sabotage groups, stop its intervention in the Kordestan affairs and end its repeated attacks on the border and that if we found out that it was sincere, we would then answer it.

President Bani-Sadr asserted: From our point of view, the Iraqi Government attack is not an attack by a neighbor, rather, it is a wide-scale plot aimed at toppling the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Addressing the Islamic countries' ambassadors, President Bani-Sadr said: Through our reaction to Iraq's aggressions, we have so far taken the following matters into consideration:

1. We believe that if the military clashes on our borders go beyond a specified limit, it is very likely that this will enable Israel to immediately intensify its pressure on the borders. This is bound to harm the Islamic countries.

2. The Iraqi Government has endeavored and is still endeavoring to make its attack look like a national and racist war; namely, between Arabs and non-Arabs. At the same time, we want the Islamic peoples and the Arab and non-Arab brothers to realize this fact; namely, confrontation between two races does not exist. The fact is that it is a confrontation between the world superpowers and a revolution that managed to overthrow a regime which was a puppet in the hands of these powers.

3. We said and continue to say that the hardware and methods of war were apparently prepared for the sake of launching the war against our common enemy, Israel. Any war that might lead to the destruction of this hardware is an action serving our common enemy. It is better not to resort to a wide-scale war, but to prove our resistance and revolutionary solidarity without involving ourselves in a wide-scale confrontation.

Proceeding from our remarks and considerations, we, until the wide-scale Iraqi attack, had not replied to the sporadic Iraqi Government attacks nor had we carried out similar action inside Iraqi territory. However, when Iraq launched its wide-scale attack, nothing could justify our commitment to these matters and considerations. Rather, we are compelled to defend our revolution and country.

Nowadays, our responsibilities are joint ones. From an Islamic point of view, the issue interests you as much as it interests us. The damages we sustain during these attacks will harm our general front as well.

The president of the republic told the ambassadors: In accordance with Islamic solidarity and the respect of rights honored in one way or the other in this world, we expect you to stand in the face of this aggression.

President Bani-Sadr said: The information we obtained 45 days ago proves beyond any doubt that this is a plot ant that the United States is not only involved, but is also participating in implementing this plot. If we want to accept this attack, we will definitely be the cause for the return and settlement of the superpowers in this area to achieve their interests and benefits and to control our countries.

Therefore, our resistance of this attack represents the resistance of all Muslims. We want you to handle the issue as we handle it and to exert all your strength to confront this attack.

Addressing the ambassadors, Prime Minister Mohammad 'Ali Raja'i said: Ever since the inception of our Islamic Revolution, the U.S. Government has been trying, with all methods, to change the course of this revolution. Its covert efforts were exposed following the capture of the den of espionage in Tehran. All the U.S. Government's blatant efforts to save the hostages have failed.

Raja'i said: Following these two rapid failures, the United States set aside the direct attack and colluded with Iraq in its attack on our Islamic Revolution. I support the statements of my brother the president of the republic and assert that Iraq has not made any political or human initiatives to solve the so-called Iraqi-Iranian issue.

Continuing, Raja'i said: Iraq has waged a very unjust war to justify and prove its claims, which cannot be supported by any quarter. In this war, Iraq has attacked our innocent people and our industrial and economic establishments.

The prime minister added: We have taken over the military bases and equipment which belonged to the tyrant in order to use them to save humanity. But the supreme tyrant, the United States, with the help of Iraq is blocking our efforts. These bases and equipment were basically poised to defend our people and economic establishments but we are forced to use them for purposes which we do not desire.

The prime minister further said: You are undoubtely well aware of the war reports and know that Iraqi bombs were dropped on our innocent people in crowed areas. We believe that as your states' ambassadors to our country, you would do better by receiving the news about our country from reliable sources. Your countries or your media should send the news to the various parts of the world.

BANI-SADR MEETS WITH SOVIET AMBASSADOR 23 SEP

GF231630 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 23 Sep 80

[Text] President Dr Bani-Sadr and commanders of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran took part this afternoon in an exclusive interview on current issues of the country. We now draw your attention to part of the interview:

[Begin recording] [Question] Mr President, considering that our air force pilots accomplished a near miraculous task today, could you please tell us about the general morale of the armed forces at the moment?

[Answer] Well, when you yourself claim that they have accomplished such an interesting task, this shows that their morale has been very high. Battles, as they seem, are waged by men, so men wage battles backed by thought and morale. The more we raise the morale of our armed forces, the more we can be certain of the outcome of the war. If the Iraqi dreams were to come true, then we would be facing a totally different situation. The fact that our armed forces have managed to resist with a capability beyond imagination shows that they enjoy good and high morale.

This development, this new design and plot, should make one issue quite clear to everyone. The issue is: When you have to have a certain thing, then you must try to protect it in the best possible manner. However, if you want to destroy what you have by your own hand, then when there is a danger you cannot make use of it. My own duty as president and commander in chief is mainly to improve what there is, to enable them [presumably the armed forces] to stand up and resist danger properly.

What is important to us today, and maybe to the world, is that what we have done in the last few days and today is that we have relied on morale and belief. It was these factors which played their part, for our arms capabilities, compared with the enemy's, were inferior. However, since we had firm belief; since our soldiers, officers and all our armed forces had belief in this vital issue, which, as far as we are concerned, is a true jihad for it is in defense of Islam and the territory of an Islamic country. [sentence as heard] And so it promises us that we will successfully emerge from this difficult test. [end recording]

RAFSANJANI: IRAQI ATTACKS AFFECT HOSTAGES ISSUE

JN232043 Tehran International Service in Arabic 2010 GMT 23 Sep 80

[Text] PARS reports that Hojjat ol-Eslam va Moslemin Hashemi Rafsanjani, speaker of the Islamic Majlis, attended a press conference today in which he talked about the Iranian-Iraqi war and its effect on the destiny of the U.S. spy hostages.

Hojjat ol-Eslam Rafsanjani said: We consider the Iraqi attacks to be part of a large U.S. plot. These events will have their impact on the destiny of the hostages. What is important is that our people are not worried by such clashes and have several times proven their complete readiness to defend their country. Giving no ear to rumors, these people stand by the side of the army, the revolution guards and the gendarmerie. Among Iraq's reasons for launching this war are its domestic affairs, in an effort to give the quality of legitimacy to the suffocation and [word indistinct] in Iraq.

Hojjat ol-Eslam Hashemi Rafsanjani, in reply to a question on mediation between Iran and Iraq, said this does not conflict with the exportation of the revolution (?outside Iran). We do not want to export our revolution through war and aggression. Our revolution is an ideological and missionary revolution and we have to consolidate this aspect. The meaning of the acceptance of mediation in war is only that we state our word and make our concepts public. Therefore, our support for the Iraqi revolutionaries and mojahedin was considered to be part of the principles to which we adhere [words indistinct].

RAFSANJANI ADDRESSES OPEN SESSION OF MAJLIS

LD231414 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1056 GMT 23 Sep 80

[Excerpts] According to a report from our correspondent, the open session of the Islamic Consultative Assembly started at 0845 with the recitation of a few verses from the glorious Koran and under the chairmanship of Hojjat ol-Eslam Hashemi Rafsanjani.

According to this report, in today's open session of the Majlis a letter from Prime Minister Raja'i on the presentation of engineer Musa Khayyer as the minister without portfolio in charge of the plan and budget organization and engineer Javad Tondguyan as oil minister was read. An urgent proposal concerning the elimination of taxes on the salaries of military personnel was discussed and two of its clauses were approved.

At the beginning of today's open session, Hojjat ol-Eslam Hashemi Rafsanjani gave a speech and in a part of his speech said: Iraq has started this treason, which could be expected from Saddam Husayn. It has been going on for some time, but it has now come to its climax. Of course, for some time we have never expected the Iraqi Government to fight against Israel. Iraq has shown that it would not fight against Israel. Like all other hypocrites, Iraq gave a reason for its not countering certain leftist slogans. It used to say that we would not take part in any discussions, but (?as others said they wanted to engage in a dialogue), Iraq crippled its own forces as well as those of the other countries. It is a source of great regret that forces which belong to the Islamic nation, which belong to the Muslim people, which belong to the Islamic world and which belong to the Arab world should be destroyed in a battle against Iran. However, our Muslim brothers, especially our Iraqi sisters and brothers, should know that Iran did not want such a situation. I witnessed the utmost caution on the part of military officials in seeing that no innocent Iraqi Muslim was killed as a result of our bombardments. They carefully took all the necessary precautions, but the attacks which we started yesterday afternoon were imposed on us by necessity. The latest report, which I received a few minutes ago from operation headquarters, indicates that five military positions south of Baghdad have come under the attack of the reluctant bombardment of the Iranian fighters. [shouts of "God is great" and "Khomeyni is the leader"]

A few reminders from the Majlis: One is that counterrevolutionaries may wish to misuse the critical situation within the country. They may wish to spread rumors, as they have done. Yesterday they spread the rumor that this is an internal coup d'etat, in order that they might drag the people--as they knew that the people would not tolerate such a thing--towards military barracks and place them against our military brothers. The conspiracy was speedily neutralized. Some of these gentlemen, who had nothing else to do, took their cars out of their garages and joined the gasoline lines in order to scare the people into thinking there is a shortage of gas. A number of other unemployed people gathered in front of food shops in order to create artificial lines and scare the people; and in those lines they spread false rumors from those very lines.

I remind all Iranian people that this is the work of counterrevolutionaries. In other words, these days hoarding, making unnecessary reserves of food, purchasing more than the daily requirements or showing avarice for the purpose of hoarding are actions against the interests of our revolution. First of all, you should be confident that Iraq is not in a position to create such difficulties for us. If, God forbid, a day comes when such difficulties may arise, this revolutionary nation should share together in difficult times; someone won't be hoarding food in his house when he knows that his neighbor has nothing. Your brothers are sacrificing their lives there; here you wish to fill all the containers in your house with bread, as though you were going on a journey. This is the height of (?injustice) and the best sign of counterrevolution.

The honorable deputy from Hamadan brought a report from Hamadan this morning which says that when it was decided to move the families of military personnel from the barracks to various cities, the people of the cities showed such enthusiasm in welcoming and showing hospitality to the families that when all the families were housed, the mosques were still full of volunteers who were offering their hospitality.

When some minor damage was caused to the airport runway after Iraq lost three planes--the pilots of which are at the moment in the custody of the people of Hamadan--the people came and in difficult conditions repaired the damaged runway. [shouts of "God is great" and "Khomeyni is the leader"]

It is reported from Khuzestan--a personal report--that the people are hoping that they may be asked to go to the battlefield in order to fight aggressive blasphemy. The people are enthusiastically welcoming martyrdom on the battlefields, while in Tehran the multitudes of volunteers are pressuring the officials to arm them and send them to the battlefields. And then we have a few materialistic, earthly, greedy, self-seeking, conspiring counter-revolutionaries who wish to move against the revolution and against the people by creating long lines and hoarding and reserving foodstuffs. The people should [words indistinct].

This was a reminder which I wished to make. Of course, the Majlis expresses its gratitude to the valiant and Muslim (?masses), the beloved, fighting and martyrdom-seeking guards and all the military forces and request the illustrious imam, our great leader, who has been our guide always and under all conditions and during critical moments, to commend the brave army once more.

FOREIGN MINISTRY CALLS ON ISLAMIC COUNTRIES FOR SUPPORT

LD231915 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1718 GMT 23 Sep 80

[Excerpts] PARS reports that the Foreign Ministry of the Islamic Republic of Iran issued a statement today addressed to the Muslims in the Islamic countries of the world, especially the neighboring Muslim countries, as follows:

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. [passage omitted on quotation from Koran] Muslim brothers and sisters of the world, Islamic countries of the world and, particularly neighboring Islamic countries: We have a message for you in the name [words indistinct] and greatness of Islam, in the name of the oppressed people of the world, in the name of the grave responsibility of 1 billion Muslims in the world. The voice of our Islamic Revolution is the voice of a revolution which took form without relying on or resorting to the superpowers; a revolution which has stood on its feet under various blows dealt by all dictatorial powers of the world and which, with God's help, will continue to stand.

Ours is the voice of an Islam which considers the uprising for God as its highest commendation to its followers; ours is the voice of an Islam which will only shout for good; ours is the voice of God is great, and our shout is the shout of the supremacy of God. Our message to you sisters and brothers emanates from the throat of a nation that recognizes no power but that of God's as genuine, a nation that recognizes the strength of its revolution as dependent on this genuine power. Our message to you Muslim sisters and brothers is a message from the Koran, namely cooperation and reliance on righteousness and virtue, and avoiding helping or cooperating with sin, oppression and aggression.

As we see it, Islam is the strongest bond between Muslims; under the circumstances this bond is the only alternative. To save Jerusalem, to rescue the oppressed Palestinian people from the dictatorial claws of America and Israel is one of the highest aims of the Islamic Revolution of Iran. This bond is the only alternative when people like Saddam Husayn, who neither thinks of Islam nor the Iraqi nation, by cooperating with the usurping Israel in word and deed, is planning to weaken and annihilate the potential and active forces which ought to be deployed against the common enemy.

Our nation's restraint in totally strangling this [words indistinct] voice has been hitherto because of the mission of our Islamic Revolution on behalf of our Iraqi Muslim brothers, lest the consequences of the madness of the world imperialist servants might encompass the dear Iraqi nation. Our Islamic Revolution decrees such action, and this is a point clearly raised in the recent message by our great leader. This mission makes it incumbent on us to call on world Muslim brothers and sisters, especially the neighboring Islamic countries, to safeguard the sanctity of Islamic brotherhood and raise your voice with that of our nation's legitimate voice, so that this crushing cry may tear apart the veils of oppression and suffocation drawn by the aggressive Iraqi Ba'thists over the Muslim Iraqi nation, so that all the oppressed Muslims may better understand and better realize that another As-Sadat named Saddam has created another upheaval and a new crisis, an action which might deviate the pressure applied by the Islamic front on the blasphemous target of Israel.

We appeal to you in the name of Islam to condemn this deviation and aggression in any way you can. We call on the Islamic governments, particularly Iran's neighboring government, which claims to be defending Jerusalem, being an enemy of Israel and (?defender) supporting the strength and unity of the Islamic world, not to allow their facilities and their air space, their waters or territories to be used by the infidel in this betrayal of the world of Islam, while protesting at this open aggression by Saddam. For to defend and support the good is to prevent any material or spiritual aid to the evil.

Under our leader's order, we are determined to continue our efforts in giving an ultimatum, in order to respect the sanctity of the Iraqi Muslim nation, an ultimatum to the aggressors. Our responses so far, the heavy and crushing damages we have dealt have been solely to indicate our readiness to defend ourselves. No doubt once our ultimatum runs out, the dignity of our Islamic Revolution, which is the dignity of [word indistinct], will not allow the traitors of Islam to continue in such an unbridled manner. After receiving our leader's order, our mobilization will embrace such enthusiasm for Islamic dignity and martyrdom as well as revolutionary self-sacrifice and will leave a bitter taste in the mouths of the world devourers and their servants, as our Islamic Revolution did.

There are such weapons as faith and virtue in the arsenal of our Islamic movement which, once combined with the material potential of the Muslim forces, will no doubt safeguard our Islamic dignity in aproper and unforgettable manner.

[Signed] Foreign Ministry of the Islamic Republic of Iran

AFP: MOKRI MEETS WITH USSR SUPREME SOVIET DEPUTY

NC231558 Paris AFP in English 1547 GMT 23 Sep 80

[Text] Moscow, 23 Sep (AFP)--The Iranian ambassador to Moscow, Mohammad Mokri, met today with Vice-President of the Supreme Soviet Inamdzhan Usmankhodzhayev to discuss the Iraqi-Iranian conflict.

Mr Mokri said the Soviet authorities showed a neutral attitude toward the battle between Tehran and Baghdad, and described the two-hour meeting as "important" and satisfying"

The Iranian ambassador repeated his demand that the Soviet Union suspend arms deliveries to Iraq.

The meeting follows the visit here Sunday and yesterday by the Iraqi Deputy Prime Minister Tariq 'Aziz.

Following the two-hour meeting with the Soviet official, Mr Mokri said that the Soviet Government had "formally assured" him that Moscow "intended to remain neutral in the Iranian-Iraqi conflict."

Mr Usmankhodzhayev said that Moscow believed the war was "serving the interests of imperialism", according to Mr Mokri, who added that the Tehran government was "very grateful to the USSR for this neutrality."

The ambassador also said that Moscow has refused further military aid to Baghdad.

"The visit of Deputy Prime Minister Tariq 'Aziz to the Kremlin was a failure," he said.

DEFENSE MINISTER INTERVIEWED ON AIR FORCE OPERATIONS

LD232354 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2104 GMT 23 Sep 80

[Interview with Col Javad Fakuri, Iranian minister of defense and commander of the air force, conducted by unidentified announcer on 23 September; place not given--recorded]

[Excerpts] [Question] Your Excellency, Colonel Fakuri, would you be kind enough to comment on a report we have received today which states that about 140 Phantom aircraft have embarked upon very interesting operations?

[Answer] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. The clashes--which, of course, started a long time ago--at 1430 yesterday reached a serious stage when the Iraqi Air Force embarked upon a so-called suprise attack. A large number of Iraqi aircraft attacked Iranian targets, but the alert antiaircraft defense personnel of the Iranian Army--of whom I am truly proud, and of whom I hope the imam and the nation are also proud--were able to repulse these attacks and force the Iraqi planes to drop their bombs in [words indistinct] and flee. Immediately after this, we attacked two Iraqi bases. This morning, in order to demonstrate our power and combat capability with a large number of aircraft, as you mentioned, we penetrated into the heart of Iraq and attacked the military airfields of Baghdad's suburbs and were able to destroy a few Iraqi bases.

Following this retaliatory attack, which was perhaps a severe blow for Iraq, we were active in all dimensions of air operations, and we embarked upon further retaliatory attacks, bombed strategic positions, defended ourselves against Iraq's continuous attacks--which were less severe than yesterday--and provided cover for the ground forces in their movements and operations.

What is most interesting in these operations is the morale of the personnel. Our personnel are fighting with fantastic bravery and morale and are struggling and are determined to fight until the last one for the protection of their country and their revolution.

These personnel are fighting in a way which is quite unprecedented in the history of Iran's Armed Forces, that is, at a very high level. I am expecting the dear nation of Iran to support our personnel as much as possible, enabling them to conduct their great tasks. [passage indistinct]

CHIEF OF JOINT STAFF FALLAHI VIEWS CONFLICT WITH IRAQ

LD232308 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 23 Sep 80

[Interview with Gen Valiollah Fallahi, Iran's acting chief of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of Iran, by unidentified correspondent at unidentified location--live or recorded]

[Text] [Question] General Fallahi, would you be good enough to talk about the latest developments at the joint staff and how you generally view the solidarity and coordination of the various forces?

[Answer] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. The commanders of the air and ground forces, the gendarmerie and the commander of the guards corps are here. The operations on the whole have been joint operations since the beginning. Each of the responsible heads concerned has carried out his share of the duties. But I, as the acting chief of the Joint Staff of the Army of the Islamic Republic of Iran, play the role of planner, coordinator and observer; but, of course, the role of commander in chief of the armed forces has been entrusted by the imam to the president of the republic.

My role has been planning. But this planning is based on intelligence. I must inform the combatant, heroic nation of Iran that our intelligence about the Iraqi Army in matters of ground, air and naval problems and in other military matters has been relatively ample with regard to operations [as heard]. But as regards air attacks, blinding, neutralizing and knocking out radar and flying at low level: All these are things that all armies are capable of surprising other armies with. And in this regard, too, we have had relatively adequate information.

As to the area of relative combat power, it is natural that in the field of repair and maintenance we have certain shortcomings, while the Iraqi Army does not have this shortcoming in the field of repairs, maintenance and spare parts, but has modern military equipment.

But as to what caused us to rise--and we have risen manfully and heroically, without any exaggeration--our military forces, our gendarmerie, our guards rose in a manner comparable to the heroes at the birth of Islam. [sentence as heard] This stems from our inner faith, our spiritual and divine faith which our nation harbors for our imam, our religion and our God. And here I beg to repeat that the longer the clashes and the war last the deeper will become this inner spiritual and divine faith, and other divine and heavenly roots might even be obtained.

I believe--this is my personal belief--that in the long term we shall win this war. It is possible that in the short term the Iraqi Army might achieve superficial, local and shortlived successes, but in the long term we will ultimately prevail. At the present time, on land and sea and in the air, during relatively extensive and comprehensive operations and on an extensive front and depth we are locked together.

Another factor which will be a factor for our success is our reliance--after God--on the Iranian nation.

We have not utilized the forces of the Iranian nation but begged them not to enter the arena. We, too, we military men, have a historic mission and this mission should be carried out and then--God forbid--should there be shortcomings we shall appeal for help from the (?forces) of the Iranian nation. And now each of the responsibile heads of the relevant forces will give an account for the benefit of the Iranian nation with regard to the operations since 1400 yesterday.

JOINT STAFF ISSUES STATEMENTS 33-38 ON FIGHTING WITH IRAQ

33: Offers of Assistance

LD231350 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 23 Sep 80

[Statement No 33 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. Most groups and committed and Muslim organizations have announced their readiness through phone calls and telegrams to assist their brother soldiers and join them in their trenches to combat the enemy.

Retired officers, NCO's and retired civilian staff of the army have repeatedly asked to put on army uniforms as soldiers and defend the borders of dear Iran side by side with their brother soldiers. The Joint Staff of the Army of the Islamic Republic of Iran, while appreciating the pure sentiments of our committed and Muslim compatriots and their offer of assistance, announces that in case of need for such cooperation the matter will be declared through a communique.

[Signed] The Joint Staff of the Army of the Islamic Republic of Iran

34: Warning to Foreign Units

LD231258 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1226 GMT 23 Sep 80

[Statement No 34 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. Now that the aggressive Government of Iraq has ignored all the legal principles and international regulations by violating the territory of the Islamic Republic of Iran, there is some evidence that some foreign military units might indirectly interfere in favor of the enemy at the Strait of Hormuz and the Persian Gulf. It is hereby firmly announced that if this matter is proved or is continued, the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran will establish the hostility of the foreign units and consider it its justified right to react in any way it finds appropriate.

It is obvious that under such a situation, the responsibility for any disturbance in the security and passage of ships and the delivery of oil substances in the region of the Persian Gulf lies directly with the country which owns the flags of the above-mentioned war units.

[Signed] The Joint Staff of the Army of the Islamic Republic of Iran

35: Heroism of Border Tribes

LD231546 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1520 GMT 23 Sep 80

[Statement No 35 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. Brave, Muslim and patriotic tribes in the regions of Eynikhosh, Qasr, Musiyan, Naftan, Dehloran and Baba-Abbas. Your heroism and the heavy blows which you, valiant brothers, and brave border guards of Iran have inflicted upon the mercenary Iraqi Armed Forces is worthy of praise. The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran hereby expresses its gratitude to these self-sacrificing tribes. It is hoped that your efforts, shoulder to shoulder with your brothers in the army, gendarmerie and guards corps will be supported by God.

[Signed] The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

36: Denial of Baghdad Bombing

LD231828 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 23 Sep 80

[Statement No 36 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. Dear compatriots and Muslims in Iran, under the protection of God, the Army of the Islamic Republic of Iran is fighting its enemy manfully and in an Islamic manner. Following the shameless attack by the Iraqi mercenary army, the Air Force of the Islamic Republic of Iran has bombed and destroyed only air bases and military installations of the Iraqi Army within Iraqi territory and has never attacked cities and civilian installations.

The enemy now sees that in his battle with the forces of Islam he is repeatedly receiving heavy blows. He has embarked on a war of propaganda and idle talks so much so, that through AFP he announced a false report.

The Joint Staff of the Army of the Islamic Republic of Iran strongly rebuts the AFP report on the bombing of the center of Baghdad.

[Signed] The Joint Staff of the Army of the Islamic Republic of Iran

37: Ahvaz, Kermanshah Troops Praised

LD240516 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 24 Sep 80

[Statement No 37 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. Dear compatriots, your soldier brothers of the 92d Division in Ahvaz and the 81st Division in Kermanshah are creating legends facing the aggressive enemy loyal to America. The brave soldiers of these two divisions, like other soldiers, have signed a blood pact to protect and guard their [word indistinct] homeland and guarantee the territorial integrity of every inch of our dear Iran with their lives. Bravery and self-sacrifice by these valiant and honorable soldiers makes the joint staff of the armed forces proud and they are praised by the joint staff.

[Signed] The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

38: Battle Report

LD241118 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1048 GMT 24 Sep 80

[Statement No 38 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] Dear compatriots, the vigorous ground and air battles with the mercenary forces of Iraq continue on all western fronts of the country and the region of Arvand Rud [Shatt al-'Arab]. The details will be brought to the notice of our dear compatriots in the next statement of the joint staff.

[Signed] The Joint Staff of the Army of the Islamic Republic of Iran

REPORTAGE ON DAMAGE IN ABADAN, CLOSING OF REFINERY

Fire Department Called

GF231349 Abadan NIOC Radio in Persian 1327 GMT 23 Sep 80

[Text] All airport fire department employees are required to go to work immediately. [message repeated] We inform the families of our coworkers in the depot districts that there is no cause for alarm. All of our coworkers are safe, thanks to God.

All Taleqani Hospital personnel are required to go to work immediately.

Citizens Warned

GF231357 Abadan NIOC Radio in Persian 1340 GMT 23 Sep 80

[Text] Dear citizens, due to the explosion of the ammonia storage tank at the refinery, there is a possibility of being poisoned. Please prepare wet handkerchiefs to avoid any possible danger. [message repeated]

Denial of Poisoned Water Rumor

GF231444 Abadan NIOC Radio in Persian 1434 GMT 23 Sep 80

[Text] We are informing our dear citizens that the rumor that the water in Abadan has been poisoned is a lie. You should not pay attention to this rumor. We will inform you immediately if the water is poisoned.

Attempt To Dispel Rumors

GF231447 Abadan Nioc Radio in Persian 1413 GMT 23 Sep 80

[Text] Please pay attention. Please pay attention. In reference to rumors concerning the evacuation of houses and poison gases in the air--rumors devised by the counterrevolutionary elements in the city--we need to inform you that you must not evacuate your houses. If you smell any gas use a wet cloth to breathe through. The gas is ammonia and is not dangerous.

Listen to NIOC radio only for the true news.

Confirmation of Iraqi Attack

GF231439 Abadan NIOC Radio in Persian 1415 GMT 23 Sep 80

[Text] Now that the Islamic Republic's Air Force has inflicted heavy damage on Iraq in several sensitive areas such as Baghdad, Musel, Basrah and [name indistinct] installations and tightened the grip on the enemy, the enemy has attacked our refinery. It is up to us to maintain our revolutionary stand and prove our true feelings in the fight between right and wrong. As the imam has decreed, consider rumormongers to be counterrevolutionaries and report them to the authorities.

Refining Operation Stopped

LD231811 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 23 Sep 80

[Text] According to the Central News Bureau report, the Oil Ministry today released a statement announcing that for the sake of safeguarding the Abadan refinery it has been ordered that the refining operation be stopped for the time being. Nevertheless, sufficient gasoline and white oil are available in depots and there is no need for concern whatsoever.

The Oil Ministry in its statement has stressed that under current circumstances any obstruction and hoarding of fuel will be considered a counterrevolutionary action and it has been discussed with the revolution prosecutor offices to prosecute cases of obstruction and hoarding.

The text of the statement is as follows:

Dear compatriots: The invading Army of the Iraqi Ba'ath regime, in its cowardly attacks on the Iranian borders, has not spared the oil installations and has especially endangered the Abadan refinery.

For the sake of safeguarding the Abadan refinery it has been ordered that for the time being the operation of this refinery be stopped.

Necessary contingencies for storing of fuel have been made and at the moment there is no need for concern regarding the amount of fuel in depots. Nevertheless, for the purpose of preparing the heroic nation of Iran to stand up to any possible event in the future and in order not to get involved with fuel shortage, all compatriots are hereby requested to observe the following:

They are asked to economize on consumption of gasoline and avoid any storing or hoarding. White oil is fortunately in sufficient supply. Meanwhile, since the dear compatriots will make necessary sacrifices in order to stop antirevolution's profiteering, the revolution committees and commissions of [word indistinct] in mosques throughout the country are hereby requested to strictly observe the distribution of white oil and renew the memories of the sacrifices they have given before the revolution's victory, in this time of crisis.

The office of the revolution prosecutor has been briefed on this and any obstruction and hoarding of fuel will be regarded as a counterrevolutionary act and the elements will be prosecuted accordingly.

Request for Blood Donations

GF241126 Abadan NIOC Radio in Persian 1120 GMT 24 Sep 80

[Text] Abadan Taleqani Hospital is in need of blood groups O Positive and O Negative. I repeat: O Negative and Positive. We request all brothers and sisters willing to donate blood needed to save a patient to come to Taleqani Hospital. O Positive and O Negative.

Need for Trucks

GF241210 Abadan NIOC Radio in Persian 1201 GMT 24 Sep 80

[Text] We need trucks urgently to carry sandbags to burning oil lines. Please contact (Brain Shomali) across the road from petrochemical (?installations) immediately.

BBC Reports Attack

TA231532 London BBC World Service in English at 1500 GMT 23 Sep 80

[From "Newsreel"]

[Text] We report first on the conflict between Iraq and Iran. Virtually all the details of the fighting in the past 24 hours have been put out by the official Iranian and Iraqi information services. But this time we have the account of an independent eyewitness. In a telephone conversation with the BBC, a radio operator on a British ship trapped in the area, has described attacks by Iraqi aircraft and artillery on the huge Iranian oil installation at Abadan. The operator first described how main storage tanks were erupting into fire under a hail of Iraqi shellfire.

[Begin recording] At the moment there are two fires still quite bad, completely separate, but the tank farm and the main storage tanks, I would say from here, that most of those must have been destroyed. [end recording]

The first attack on the oil storage tanks had been carried out the night before by eight Iraqi planes, and the operator was asked whether any planes of the Iranian Air Force had gone into action to defend the refinery.

[Begin recording] We haven't seen an Iranian plane. We have not seen one Iranian plane in the air over Khorramshahr or Abadan. Last night there was a total blackout in Khorramshahr and Abadan, and there was an obvious air raid carried out last night. The Iranian forces only replied with anti-aircraft fire. [end recording]

That on-the-spot account was given over ship-to-shore radio, just a few hours ago from a British ship in the heart of the conflict near Abadan.

AHVAZ ORGANIZES TO PREPARE FOR IRAQI ATTACKS

Communications Employees Leave Canceled

GF231249 Ahvaz Domestic Service in Persian 1240 GMT 23 Sep 80

[Text] The Khuzestan communications department has announced that leave for all technical staff employees has been canceled. All these employees are required to come to work.

Oil Workers Mobilize

GF231550 Ahvaz Domestic Service in Persian 1400 GMT 23 Sep 80

[Announcement No 1 issued by the Ahvaz Oil Industry Employees Resistance Headquarters on 23 September 1980]

[Text] In the name of God. In order to support our brother border guards in destroying the satanic Iraqi forces, the Ahvaz Islamic Oil Employees Society has been renamed the Oil Resistance Headquarters. We are requesting that all employees who have completed their military training report to this headquarters with their discharge documents as soon as possible. They will be used if the need arises.

Blackout Appeal

GF231533 Ahvaz Domestic Service in Persian 1400 GMT 23 Sep 80

[Text] This announcement has been issued by the Ahvaz Revolution Committee and the imam's operational headquarters: In the name of God. In view of the emergency situation and the importance of respecting the orders of security officers, all dear citizens, offices, airports and organizations are requested to guard against the dangers of the enemy's attacks during the night. They should turn off all lights, otherwise they will be prosecuted.

Bread Supplies Assured

GF231536 Ahvaz Domestic Service in Persian 1400 GMT 23 Sep 80

[Text] The following announcement has been issued by the Ahvaz governorate: We inform all brothers and sisters that all bakers in Ahvaz are working as usual; they are doing their best to produce bread. Therefore, you do not need to worry. We are kindly asking our brothers and sisters to buy their usual daily bread. They should not buy more than they need; this will avoid shortages.

Guards Issue Military Alert

GF231602 Ahvaz Domestic Service in Persian 1400 GMT 23 Sep 80

[Announcement No 2 issued by the Ahvaz Revolution Guards Corps on 23 September 1980]

[Text] We are hereby issuing an immediate military alert to all mobilization brothers who have been trained by the army or guards. These brothers are requested to report at once to the revolution guards mobilization headquarters at (Bagh Mo'yn).

Roadbuilding Equipment 'Urgently" Needed

GF231745 Ahvaz Domestic Service in Persian 1714 GMT 23 Sep 80

[Unscheduled announcement]

[Text] All companies and factories that have heavy roadbuilding equipment such as loaders, graders, bulldozers and other such equipment are requested to contact the procurement headquarters in Ahvaz at telephone Nos 33558, 33094 and 33095. The cooperation of these companies is urgently needed.

FURTHER REPORTAGE ON FIGHTING, RELATED DEVELOPMENTS

Food Producers to Increase Guards

GF231054 Shiraz Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 23 Sep 80

[Announcement by Fars Islamic Workers Society--date not given]

[Text] We announce to all flour factories and depots and food manufacturers that they should intensify the guard over their premises in order to avoid any disruption in the production of food. If help is needed you can contact the Fars Islamic workers society.

News Bulletin Broadcast Schedules

LD231424 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1158 GMT 23 Sep 80

[Text] It is hereby brought to the attention of our dear compatriots that the news bulletin of the Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran will be broadcast at 2000 instead of 2100, and that the news bulletin of the Vision of the Islamic Republic of Iran will be broadcast at 2030 instead of 2130. The provincial news will be broadcast at 1700 from the Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran. The same provincial news will be carried on the Vision of the Islamic Republic of Iran at 1900.

Exit Permit Regulations

LD231833 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 23 Sep 80

[Text] The following statement was issued today by the office of the Prime Minister of the Islamic Republic of Iran:

In the name of God, all passengers who are going abroad via the Bazargan border are hereby informed that as of 24 September 1980 they must carry a photocopy of their certificate of discharge from military service, otherwise they will be barred from leaving the country. Meanwhile, when calling at a passport office to obtain the special exit permit they must carry the original of the above document.

Tehran Blackout Appeal

LD231820 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 23 Sep 80

[Tehran's Security Headquarters Statement No 8]

[Text] In His exalted name. Following the previous statements from the Energy Ministry with regard to maintaining a full blackout, regrettably, negligence is noticeable in concealing light in certain houses and buildings.

Therefore, all the dear fellow citizens are hereby urged to take the necessary steps to achieve a blackout and to fully conceal light or the security headquarters, with the cooperation of the Energy Ministry, will directly take the necessary measures. In the meantime, the following telephone numbers are placed at the disposal of the dear citizens so that they may, if necessary, establish contact with this center: 392045, 391051, 568021 and 538837.

State Railway Curtails Schedule

LD231916 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 23 Sep 80

[Text] The State Railway, through the Central News Bureau, announced: Because of the extraordinary situation in the country and the necessity to use locomotives to increase the country's capability to transport necessary goods, fuel and foodstuffs, the dear compatriots are hereby informed that from 27 September until further notice the Tehran-Mashhad, Tehran-Khorramshahr, Tehran-Gorgan express trains and the Tehran-Maragheh train are being cancelled.

Passenger trains will run exclusively as follows: one train on the Tehran-Mashhad route; one train on the Tehran-Ahvaz route; one express train on the Tehran-Tabriz route; one express train on the Tehran-Kerman route; and one train on Saturdays, Mondays and Wednesdays on the Tehran-Gorgan route.

From the above date tickets for passenger trains will not be sold in advance and tickets will be sold at the rail stations only on the day of travel. The State Railway requests the brothers and sisters, who have always proved their goodwill through their revolutionary patience under the current circumstances, to avoid taking pleasure trips to enable the State Railway to carry those compatriots whose trips are essential.

Doctors for Front

LD240740 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0649 GMT 24 Sep 80

[Text] This statement was issued just now by the Joint Headquarters for Relief and Treatment, stationed at the Red Crescent Society of the Islamic Republic of Iran:

All our esteemed colleagues, specialists in general surgery, orthopedics and anesthesiology are hereby requested to present themselves to this headquarters as soon as possible as there is an immediate need for them in battle zones. The headquarters address is: Ostad Nejatollahi Avenue--formerly Villa Avenue--at the corner of Ayatollah Taleqani Avenue, the Central Red Crescent Society of the Islamic Republic of Iran. You may also contact us through the following phone numbers: 792046, 80890114 [as heard] 890115, extensions 325 and 327.

Abadan Transport for Wounded

GF241200 Abadan NIOC Radio in Persian 0700 GMT 24 Sep 80

[Text] All those who own private vehicles are requested to go to (Bovardeh Janobi) to help transport the injured to hospitals.

Americans, Iraqi Troops Captured

GF241036 Abadan NIOC Radio in Arabic 1018 GMT 24 Sep 80

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Victory comes from nowhere except God.

Brother compatriots, we extend to you the glad tidings of victory achieved by the army of Mohammad ibn 'Abdullah, may the peace of God be upon him and his family, by the Army of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Truth has gained victory and defeated falsehood. The Army of Abu Jahl is defeated by the army of the messenger of God, leaving behind its tanks and ammunition in Shalamcheh this morning, some have surrendered and others ran away. Here is the report on the attackers' losses for today: 18 tanks and a large number of Iraqi Army soldiers were arrested, among whom were four Americans. If God supports you, no one can defeat you.

Iraqi Troop Defections

LD241130 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 24 Sep 80

[Text] According to the latest report from Khuzestan, 100 Muslim and deprived military personnel of Iraq joined the ranks of our brother soldiers, shouting with delight and chanting God is great slogans at the border strip in southwest Iran.

Khorramshahr Governor Requests Jeeps

GF241145 Abadan NIOC Radio in Persian 1140 GMT 24 Sep 80

[Text] The Khorramshahar governor's office urgently needs Shahbaz open-top jeeps. Those who have such vehicles will please contact the governor's office.

Mahshahr Medical Personnel Recalled

GF241213 Abadan NIOC Radio in Persian 1200 GMT 24 Sep 80

[Text] All personnel of the Doctor Mosaddeq Hospital in Mahshahr are required to go to the hospital immediately.

Ulema Call for Jihad

JN231527 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1010 GMT 23 Sep 80

[Statement issued by the League of Iraqi Ulema on 23 September]

[Excerpts] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Our sons, brothers and families of the heroic Iraqi people: peace and the blessings of God be upon you. We are passing through a decisive and historic phase in the life of our bleeding Muslim nation. Since the beginning of Islam, the land of Iraq has witnessed numerous turning points in the history of Islam. The soil of Iraq has been mixed with the blood of the Muslim fighters and martyr ulema.

Brave people of Iraq. The holy Koran, the prophet, blessings of God be upon him, and Imam Husayn are calling upon you to rise and remove the tyrant and the kafir ruler from his palace. Our tribes, our army, our people and our brother fighters, today is your day. What are you waiting for? What has the tyrant and his clique left you? Islam is being fought on your soil and the Koran and imams are being persecuted. Sacred places and shrines are being desecrated and the clergy and the believing youth are being butchered.

Begin demonstrations, even if on a small scale. They are bound to escalate until they turn into an upheaval in the streets. Do not say they will kill us, because the policemen are your sons and brothers. They have consciences and they will not continue firing at you. Let the children who wish to go to paradise be at the head of the demonstrations. Come on, sons of Muhammad and Husayn. Is there no one who dares to come forward and say: Today I will meet with my beloved Muhammad and his friends. [words indistinct]

Our people and army in Iraq. The line between heaven and hell is now clear. The leader of the nation, the supreme authority--the great Khomeyni--has issued his judgment, showing you your religious duty.

We join the great leader and call upon you to launch jihad. Begin now and fight and we will be among you in the shortest possible time. Fight until we and you have been martyred in the defense of Islam and in resisting the tyrant and toppling him. It will be a jihad until victory. Peace and the mercy of God be upon you.

[Signed] The League of Iraqi Ulema, 23 September 1980.

Iraq Attacking Civilian Targets

GF231637 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1537 GMT 23 Sep 80

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] To all our kinsmen, brothers and sons in Muslim, steadfast and proud Iraq. The rash tyrant has lost his head. Since he is a professional criminal--as you all know from his black record, he is full of crime, savagery and barbarism--he will not shrink from resorting to the most hideous, monstrous, terrorist, vile, harsh and treacherous methods even if they cause great massacres among the unarmed, innocent Muslim Iraqi people.

O proud brothers and kinsmen. We have repeatedly delcared that your army, the Army of the Islamic Republic, will not shell any civilian positions. We are not at war with our dear people, the proud Muslim Iraqi people. You are part of us, and we are part of you.

Those who are in the army of the agent Saddam have allowed themselves to become docile instruments in the hands of the butcher of Iraq, the criminal Hajjaj [a 7th century ruler of Iraq known for his cruelty], and his atheist masters, to strike at the Islamic state and the Koran. These are our targets. As for you, O proud people of Iraq, we shall not harm you. The trumpets of the atheist enemy are saying that our Islamic army has shelled civilian targets in a number of Iraqi cities. While we declare that these allegations are totally false, we stress that our targets have been, and continue to be, military targets alone and nothing else.

We warn you, kinsmen, against the tricks of this tyrant pharoah and his cunning diabolical intrigues. Every civilian target that has been strafed has been strafed by the pilots of the criminal agent, Saddam. Spread this fact, O brothers, among the people. Inform them of this heinous crime in order to foil this vile scheme that aims at striking at the positions of rebellion, insurgency and mutiny in the proud Iraqi areas that the regime knows it is incapable of subjugating or ignoring.

O kinsmen in proud Mosul, in rebelling Al-Basrah, in heroic Al-Kut, in proud Dawrah and Al-'Marah. O kinfolk throughout proud and Muslim Iraq. Seize the opportunity, be alert and vigilant and strike with a fist of steel. Be confident that victory is yours. Almighty God is with you, and victory comes from God.

U.S. Encouraging 'Local Agents'

JN232033 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 23 Sep 80

[From "Today's Iraq on Al-Husayn's Path" program]

[Text] The agent Saddam Husayn is U.S. imperialism's spear against Islam. Day after day, the agent regime in Iraq is escalating its war against Islam and Iran. It is clear that the heroes of the settlement both from within and from without are waging war against the Islamic Revolution. They consist of the United States, the No 1 enemy of the Islamic nation; Anwar as-Sadat, president of the Egyptian regime, who is the nation's No 1 traitor; Saddam Husayn, the butcher of the Iraqi people; and King Husayn, the symbol of humiliation and conwardice. All of these are bound together by intimate relations. They grovel before the U.S. masters in fear and surrender and bow down before Zionist feet in Tel Aviv.

But if anything comes up against the Islamic Revolution in Iran, they appear as lions, particularly if the United States gives them the green light.

The United States is now mobilizing all of its forces to fight the revolution, which has not only threatened its interests and presence in the region but has also defeated its plots against the Islamic nation and opened a new era of freedom and dignity for all of the world's oppressed. The numerous U.S. actions and campaigns against Iran have failed. Recently, the United States strengthened its air and naval bases in the region, especially in the gulf and the Indian Ocean. U.S. aircraft carriers and thousands of U.S. Marines were sent to the Iranian coast as a prelude to the offensive against the revolution. The United States also provoked some border disputes, in order to transform the problem into a local issue between Iran on the one hand and its Islamic neighbors on the other. This would enable the United States to seize certain strategic positions possessed by Iran. The United States has encouraged its local agents to encroach upon the Iranian revolution and to provoke it. The United States and its agents are not aware that they are fighting a state that is supported not only by its people and army, but by God. This was manifested in the failure of their attempts and operations against the revolution. These operations were defeated by God.

Let them try their luck again and meet God's punishment at the hands of the heroic Iranian Muslim people.

Military Commander on Iraqi Leaders

LD240150 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 23 Sep 80

[Interview with an unidentified military commander: date and location not given--live or recorded]

[Excerpts] [passage indistinct] [Answer] Saddam Husayn and the rest of the governments which are agents of the United States could, if they wished, by a mere turning-off of the taps for a single month, the taps of their oil for a duration of 1 month, not only cast Israel into the sea but also place the world in confrontation with the world of Islam. But, of course, they are agents. Instead of mobilizing these arms, swords, cannon, tanks, aircraft, all these things paid for by the Muslim treasury of the Arabs and the Islamic world, instead of mobilizing these against the enemies of Islam, as an agent he is mobilizing them against a country which has deemed the battle against Israel one of the fundamental tasks of Islamic governments.

[Saddam Husayn's reasoning is:] Why does it wish to wage battle against Israel?

Shame on you, O Saddam!

Saddam has other helpmates and cousins in our country: the Bakhtiars and these filthy domestic mercenaries. On the one hand, the heart of the soldiery of Islam is being pierced by the foes of Islam, while on the other, by domestic mercenary agents. Bakhtiar wishes to set up a government on the bodies of the oppressed inhabitants of the towns of Sar-e Pol-e Zahab and Qasr-e Shirin, who are the targets of oppression by the aircraft of this traitorous and venal Saddam Husayn. He wishes to destroy Iran in order to set up a government on the cadavers of Iranians, only a social democratic government which, according to him, will be neither Eastern nor Western. It will be both Eastern and Western and a crazy mixed-up republic.

It is obvious that if an attack is planned months beforehand it will result in some victory during the first few days or months of battle. But Saddam should know that no wrong will become victorious against God. God's soldiers are victorious and they fight like lions on every front and shout "God is great."

Faced with this [word indistinct] attack they have been able to capture a number of soldiers and tanks from this army that receives rations from America.

This should be a hard blow to Saddam Husayn's mouth. Our nation has not yet begun its cries of "God is great" behind its own army. We will drag Saddam from his pharaonic throne, while shouting "God is great."

Your soldiers are fighting on all fronts with all their might. They enjoy high morale and are not afraid of becoming martyrs. At this very moment there is a pilot on the way who might [word indistinct] tonight. Then the nation of Iran will see the self-sacrifices of their soldiers, both in the air and on the ground. God will be victorious. Long live the nation of Iran.

Comment on U.S.-USSR Involvement

LD241016 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0854 GMT 24 Sep 80

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] The valiant Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran have demonstrated their complete solidarity and their excellent morale in confronting the enemy in such a way that they have frustrated and brought to naught all the forecasts and vain imaginings of the Ba'thist officials of Iraq and their foreign masters. The Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran have forsaken their defensive posture and are responding to aggression with aggression.

According to the reports issued by the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran, more than 34 Iraqi MiGs have been brought down and 4 missile craft belonging to the Ba'thist have been sunk. As a result of the intense Iranian artillery fire the installations and factories producing gas in Fao were destroyed, and air bases in Shu'aybah and Kut, oil installations in Nasiriyah, the barracks of the 20th Brigade, and the (Shiveh and Surmand) regions have been hit and destroyed by the Air Force of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

A glimpse at the reactions of the officials in the Kremlin and the White House shows that the aggressive acts of the Ba'thists were only for the sake of safeguarding the interests of superpowers and international Zionism and that they have been carried out with their moral support. For the sake of appearances, both America and the Soviet Union blame one another for involvement in the matter. In a speech following the latest aggressive acts of Iraq against Iranian soil, Carter said: These events will demonstrate to Iran that Iranians are in need of peace. It can be gathered from his remarks that American imperialism, in order to teach Iran and its antiimperialist policies a lesson, has ordered its servile servant Saddam Husayn to attack this country.

On the other hand, PRAVDA, the organ of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, has accused America of inciting Iran to confront Iraq. According to news agencies' reports, Tariq 'Aziz, Saddam's special envoy, has arrived in Moscow for discussions with the Soviet leaders. It is said that the discussions have been concerened with the clashes between Iran and Iraq and the purchase of new weapons from the Russians. Moscow calls Iran's confrontation against the violations of the Iraqi Ba'thists as being incited by America at a time when it has armed the regime of Saddam Husayn to the teeth with all kinds of Russian weapons, while it has closed its eyes to the aggressive acts of the Iraqi Ba'thists and while Iran is at war with America in many different spheres.

In such conditions it is the duty of the Muslim nation of Iraq--which has to be aware that the Ba'thist regime of Saddam has sacrificed all material assets and all spiritual resources of the Muslim people of Iraq in the path of safeguarding the interests of imperialism in the region--it is up to the Muslim, committed people of Iraq and the armed forces to rise and cut off the hands of Saddam Husayn and any other foreign aggressive power whose only gift to the deprived Muslim people of Iraq has been deprivation, misery and the trampling under foot of all Islamic principles.

STUDENTS MOVE HOSTAGES, ANNOUNCE 'STATE OF WAR' WITH U.S.

LD231738 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1700 GMT 23 Sep 80

[Text] In their 146th statement issued tonight, the Muslim student followers of the Imam's policy announced that the spy hostages have been transferred to other sites. Here follows the statement:

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Now that on the order of the imam of the nation, the iconoclastic Khomeyni, the brave and combative Iranian nation is in a formal state of war [mellat-e salahshur va razmandeh-e Iran dar jang-e rasmi ba Amrika'-ye jahankhor be sar mibarad] against the world-devouring America, now that the armed forces of this great Islamic country, including the brave and valiant army personnel, the air, ground and sea forces, are engaged in Jihad and the service of God; now that our self-sacrificing and revolutionary, selfless brothers in the Revolution Guards Corps have put on their martyrdom garments and are attacking the enemy columns on all sides, like soldiers of the early Islamic period, in order to make the criminal Saddam, who has become an instrument of America, understand that he will suffer a similar fate as the damned Mohammad Reza, that he will no longer be able to deal the slightest blow to our Islamic Revolution through his diabolical maneuvers and vain pretexts; rather, the heroic Iranian nation, in this all-out war, has decided and is determined to rush to the aid of its fraternal nation, the deprived Iraqi nation, as soon as the order is issued by the imam, and to cleanse the Islamic country of Iraq and Baghdad from the filth of this dictatorial regime.

The final part of the statement says: While expressing our highest praise and thanks for the heroic acts of our army brothers as well as those of the ground, sea, and air forces and the gendarmerie and the Revolution Guards Corps including the entire martyr-nurturing Iranian nation, we declare that, in order to foil any [word indistinct] and plot by this world-devouring power we have transferred the spy hostages from Qom, Esfahan, Mashhad, Tabriz, Kerman, Yazd and Jahrom to other sites. We expect the entire combative Iranian nation to continue along its straight path, as always, by fighting against those creating a false climate and mercenary rumor-mongers. This straight path is no doubt, and despite all difficulties, aimed at the annihilation of the world-devourers of West and East, while saturated with resistance and an epic-making morale.

[Signed] The Muslim student followers of the imam's policy.